Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Proposed Approach for an Analysis of Military Activities

Presentation to the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team May 5, 2009 • Conference Call

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Basic Approach

- Categorize activities based on type/style of potential impact
- Determine level of frequency or intensity
- Display matrix with category assignments and frequency/intensity assignments for each military use area
 - Can also be displayed graphically



Categories of Potential Impact

- A. Direct and acute damage to seafloor habitat or marine life or causes direct disturbance likely to reduce survival/reproduction
- B. Likely contacts the seafloor and may cause damage to habitat or sea life, though does not do so in such an immediately destructive manner
- C. Activities probably do not contact or directly damage the seafloor and habitat, but can be damaging to marine life
- D. Does not contact the seafloor or if so only in a limited way and likely causes disturbance or temporary displacement of marine life, but does not necessarily reduce survival

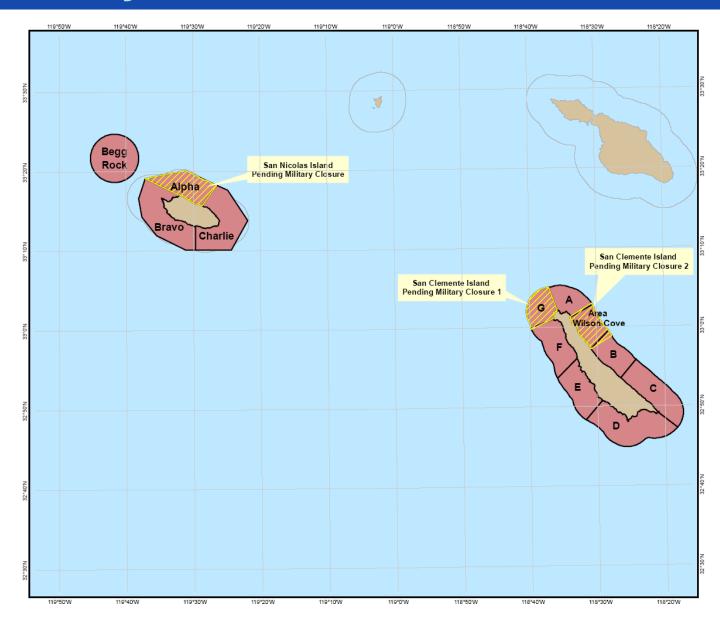


Example Matrix

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Description of Military Activities	Α	Wilson Cove	В	С	D	E	F	G	Alpha	Bravo	Charlie
Surface Ship Radiated Noise											
Measurements (SSRNM)			Х								
Acoustic trials (ACTRL)			Х								
Active SONAR	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				
Ship radiated noise measurements		Х									
Sonobuoy test and evaluation		Х	Х								
Low altitude aircraft overflights.									Х	Х	
Small boat mooring to buoys		Х									
Amphibious Assault Training. Staging											
area for beach assaults.											
Explosive Anchorage for demolition of											
ordnance & on/off loading.											
Reverse osmosis brine discharge.											Х
Explosive ordnance disposal											
operations	Х					Х	Х				
Mine training operations and											
explosives disposal (detonation),											
anchorage											
Dredging the entrance channel for											
Seal Beach Naval Ordnance Center											
Air-to-ground bombing				Х	Х						
Large missile strikes				Х	Х						
Missile operations, bombing exercises											
(land and water)				Х	Х						
Torpedo operations				Х	Х	Х					
Underwater detonations (up to 20 lbs											
NEW)				Х	Х						
Underwater detonations (up to 500 lbs											
NEW)	Χ										



Military Use Areas at the Islands





Recommended Next Steps

- Staff have requested that the military help complete the matrix
 - Particularly for impacts, frequency and intensity
- Develop workgroup of MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team, military representatives to the regional stakeholder group, and MLPA staff to finish matrix and determine appropriate category and frequency coding
- Provide matrix and graphic representation to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force